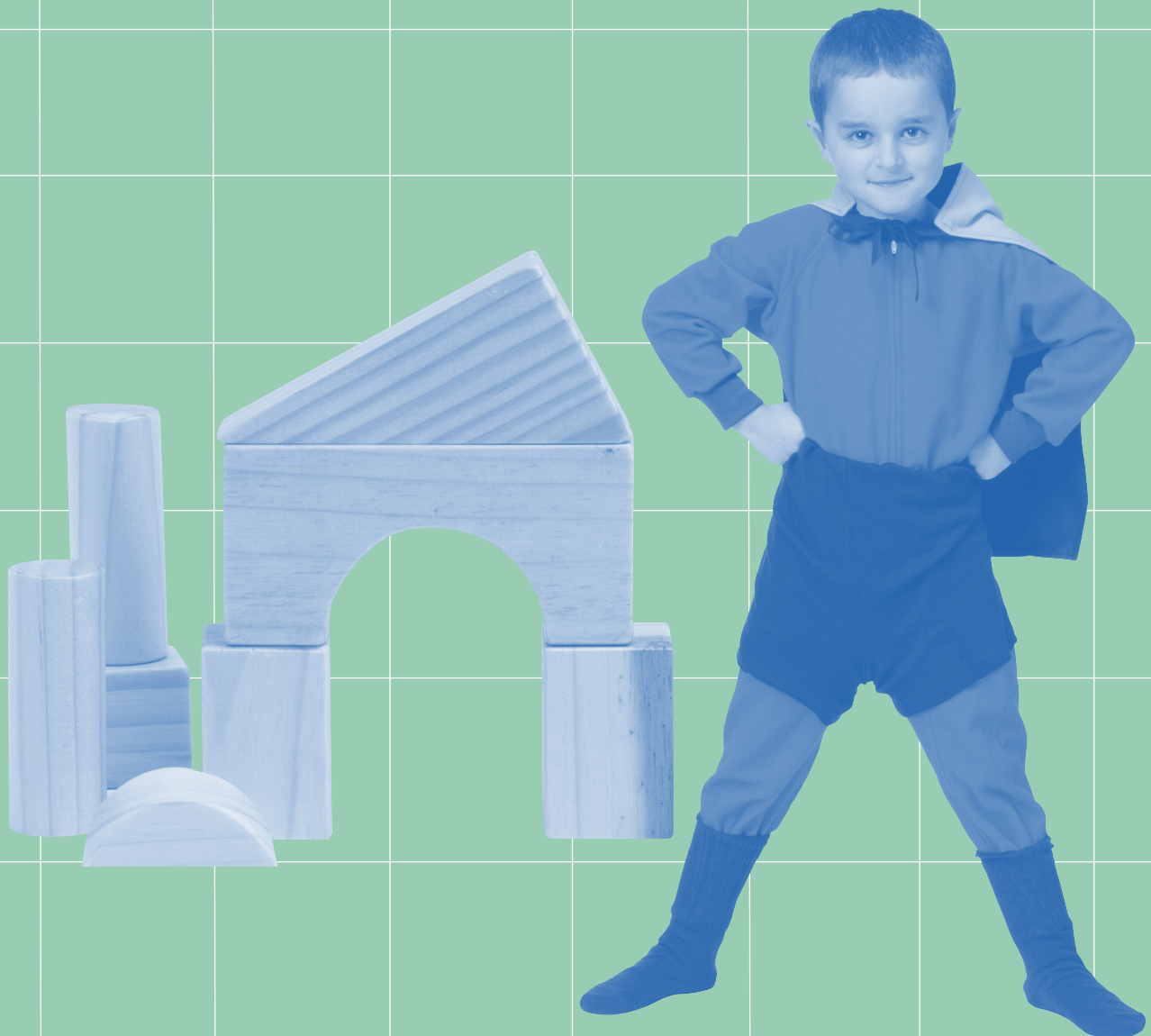




Child Development Bureau  
Division for Children, Youth and Families  
NH Department of Health and Human Services  
1-800-3345 x 4242 or (603) 271-4242  
[www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/CDB](http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/CDB)

# 2003 Annual Report





Dear Stakeholders,

This second Child Development Bureau (CDB) Annual Report covers the period from July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003 (the State Fiscal Year). During this time, the number of children receiving child care scholarships in one month exceeded 7,000 for the first time; the NH Commission on Higher Education voted to approve Wheelock College's request to offer Masters' Degree in Early Childhood Education courses on weekends; the QUEST Center is being utilized weekly by early childhood educators for meetings and trainings, including the *Cost of Care* course. We expended all available financial resources to provide access to child care for low-income families, to improve the quality of care available to all children and to support professional development activities for the early childhood professional workforce statewide.

Thank you to all of you who gave input on our Biennial Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) for October 1, 2003-September 30, 2005 (the Federal Fiscal Year). We received many responses to our public questions last fall and were delighted by suggestions and affirmations at our 18 Plan Hearings statewide this spring. The Plan we submitted in June can be accessed at [dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/CDB](http://dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/CDB). Now we look forward to working with all of you to implement that plan in the coming two years!

Yours for children and families,

Margaret Leitch Copeland, Ed.D.  
Administrator, DCYF Child Development Bureau

### Introducing Our Staff



(Left to right - front row) Denise Corvino, Margaret Leitch Copeland and Susan Gimilaro

(Left to right - standing) Rebecca Gomez (intern), Tracey Secula, Deborah Madigan, Dawn Rouse, Pamela Durkee, Robert Letellier and Gaylen Plant (intern)

*The Child Development Bureau is dedicated to enriching the lives of children and their families by supporting quality child care. A special note of appreciation to all whose valued assistance enabled us to achieve excellence in programming and services during the past year.*

**Thank  
You !**





# Highlights

July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003



## Investing in New Hampshire, Its Children and Families

★ Approximately **\$23.9M** was spent on child care employment-related scholarships, with an average monthly expenditure of \$284 per child.

★ Every day, child care providers cared for as many as **7,000** children receiving scholarships. The annual unduplicated number of children served was over **13,000**.

★ **67%** of parents receiving a CDB Child Care Scholarship were low income working families. Of the number of parents receiving a CCDF Child Care Scholarship, **33%** were TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) recipients. Of these, **68%** were employed, **16%** were seeking jobs, **12%** were in training, and **5%** were utilizing barrier resolution services.

★ Eligibility for Step 1 child care reimbursement (the highest rate) was expanded to include families in

Extended Medical Assistance whose TANF financial assistance closed due to new/increased earnings or hours of employment. This extension, available up to one year, assists families in becoming self-sufficient.

★ More than **800** children receiving Division for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) protective or preventative services received **\$1.8M** in child care scholarships.

★ The Department of Health and Human Services processed a total of **426,454** child care provider invoices.

★ In New Hampshire, **355** Child Care Providers have been certified to provide services for children in DCYF custody, thus increasing opportunities for children state-wide.

## Investing in Enhanced Services

❖ To ensure the safety and well-being of children, criminal background checks have been conducted on more than **1,800** license-exempt providers.

❖ License exempt Child Care Provider enrollment was streamlined to one central location and now takes less than **one** week to complete.

❖ In order to encourage providers to accept and retain children who have a disability, the CDB pays a \$4-a-day supplemental rate to providers who care for children with a verified developmental, educational or medical disability. During SFY 2002-03, **64** providers were involved in this initiative.

❖ The CDB implemented an electronic diskette billing system that is now used by over **35** child care providers.

❖ The CDB maintains a current database of over **4,000** enrolled licensed and licensed exempt child care providers.

❖ Adoption of the CDB Administrative Rules was completed, clarifying eligibility rules for parents and providers.

❖ In a competitive bid process, **10** agencies throughout the State were selected to offer Child Care Resource, Referral, Recruitment and Training from July 1, 2003-June 30, 2005.

❖ The CDB Provider Payment Support Center handled, through its toll-free number, **11,500** phone inquiries from parents and child care providers, expediting solutions to reimbursement inquiries.

❖ The CDB has entered into two-year contracts with **41** child care centers throughout the State that can directly determine eligibility for Child Care Development Fund Scholarships for families receiving child care assistance. This allows for swifter, more direct service for such families.





## Investing in Education, Support, and Training

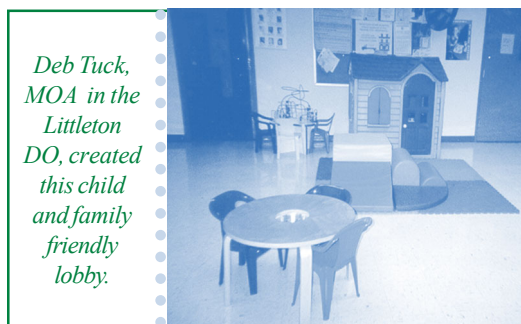
✦ 32 people completed the Wheelock seminar on *Caring for Infants and Toddlers* and received grants totalling \$100,000 to improve their caregiving environments.

✦ The CDB successfully partnered with DHHS Managers of Administration (MOA) in an initiative to make District Office lobbies, family rooms and interview rooms more child and family friendly.

✦ There are 40 accredited child care programs in the State. The CDB covered \$7,000 of application and validation fees for 19 new child care programs seeking accreditation. In addition, eight child care programs that received national recognition for becoming accredited or reaccredited, received a CDB accreditation stipend. Accredited programs received over \$128,000 in Quality Awards for serving low-income families.

✦ In January, 120 child care providers attended a CDB sponsored training on Infant/Toddler Curriculum, covering such topics as Literacy, Math, Science and Caregivers/Child Interaction. Each participating provider was awarded \$1,000 in infant and toddler learning materials.

✦ During the summer of 2003, 17 child care providers attended a CDB sponsored course on the Cost of Care that was designed to help participants understand the principles of budget preparation and analysis in order to improve their operations.



## Recognizing Early Childhood Professionals

▲ In April, at the CDB's annual celebration of early childhood professionals, Governor Craig Benson greeted the group with a proclamation. Department of Education Commissioner Nicholas Donahue was guest speaker and author Roberta Baker read from her book *No Ordinary Olive*. At the event, 86 early childhood professionals were awarded new credentials. In addition, 11 individuals were honored with the Henry Morgan Award for their achievement of advancement in the early childhood credentialing: Amy Drapeau, Arlene Drew, Myrta Gage, Elena Horodincu, Claudette Mallory, Diane Mulvaney, April Savage, Jessica Roy, Debra Saulnier, Jessica Szugda, and Patricia Woollett.

▲ At the annual DCYF conference in May, Pat Finnigan-Allen of Berlin received special recognition for her contributions to child care in New Hampshire and the TLC Child Care of Berlin was honored for its exceptional work with foster care families.



Dr. Selma Deitch

▲ The CDB, in collaboration with DHHS Office of Community and Public Health's Bureau of Maternal and Child Health, presented 100 child care providers with a Health and Safety Manual. In June, at a gathering to discuss the manual, Dr. Selma Deitch, a leader in early childhood and health issues, was honored for her outstanding work on behalf of New Hampshire's children.

▲ In recognition of their commitment to the development of the next generation of early childhood professionals, the NH Infant/Toddler Task Force was named the 2003 recipient of the Mary Stuart Gile Award.

## In Service to Children

*We wish to thank the following who served on CDB Task Forces, generously giving of their time, talents and commitment to excellence in child care.*

### Child Care Quality Task Force

*Thanks to this Task Force, the CDB uses National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), National Family Child Care Association (NFCCA) and the National School Age Child Care Association (NSACA) as standards of quality. It also pays accreditation fees, and aggregate of CCDF payments to accredited programs.*

Peggy Bailey  
Bruce Berkowitz  
Maureen Cavanagh  
Richard Crocker  
Marie David  
Karen Dewey  
Deirdre O'Hare  
Wendy Kessler  
Robin Lipkovitz-Susser  
Julie McConnell  
Mary Miller  
Alida Millham  
Carol Mooney  
Katherine Bogle Shields  
Kathleen Sosny  
Mary Jane Wallner  
Carroll Winch

### Professional Development Task Force

*Thanks, to this Task Force, The Early Childhood QUEST (Quality Using Education, Support & Training) Center for Professional Development was born!*

Patricia Cantor  
Nancy Evans  
Nancy Pyncheon  
Ruth Dow Geraci  
Gail Coppins Gettens  
Mary Stuart Gile  
Rachael Hildreth  
Maureen LaClair  
Kate McCosham  
Tessa McDonnell  
Della O'Shea  
Gerry Santilli  
Sue Stepick

